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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. MATSUI).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 8, 2022.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DORIS O. MATSUI to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 10, 2022, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

AND STILL I RISE: THOSE WHO TOLERATE GUN VIOLENCE PERPETUATE IT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, and still I rise. I rise today with a message of grave concern, especially for those who have suffered in Uvalde, Texas, with reference to the slaughter that took place there, the mass murders.

But I do have something that gives me some degree of hope. I have an open

letter that was published in The Dallas Morning News that I would like the share. I would like to read some excerpts from the letter. It is styled: "An Open Letter Supporting Senator JOHN CORNYN and Gun Safety Measures."

It reads in part:

We, the undersigned, are conservatives, mostly from Texas and our friends from other States, outdoor and gun enthusiasts. We vote for Republican Senators. We believe in the Second Amendment.

It goes on to read:

We are especially encouraged that Senator CORNYN is focusing on two vital ways to improve gun safety: red flag law and expanding background checks.

We are also hopeful that the momentum building for those two changes may also spur consideration of raising the age to purchase a gun to 21, which we believe is another important step in curbing gun violence.

They close with:

There are many of us across these great United States. We are organizing. Please join us.

I thank them, the conservatives, gun enthusiasts, and those who support Senators. I want to thank them for this open letter because this issue of gun violence is one that we have to have a collective response to. The politicians alone will not solve this problem.

I respect my colleagues and the political order. I happen to be one of them. But I know that there has to be some input from the influentials of the world, the chambers of commerce and the businesses communities.

So I encourage the business communities to do as these businesspersons have done: Take a stand, a public stand. Take a stand for justice. Take a stand for these children. Take a stand against mass murders. Please take a stand. Those who tolerate this perpetuate it.

THE CRISIS AT THE BORDER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from

Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, this past week, I joined a group of 12 of my colleagues to visit our southern border and to see firsthand the crisis that President Biden's open border policies have created.

What we saw were massive gaps in our border wall that allow for the cartels to traffic money, drugs, and human beings across our southern border. The Border Patrol agents whom we spoke with told us that in the Rio Grande sector that they are encountering nearly 10,000 migrants each month.

In the past year Border Patrol agents have apprehended people from 174 nations attempting to cross our border. And even more troubling, they have encountered 42 individuals on the terrorist watch list.

According to Border Patrol data, over 1,200 pounds of fentanyl were seized in the month of April alone, and at a time when we have just seen over 100,000 Americans killed by drug overdoses, this spike in fentanyl trafficking has made each and every State a border State.

It is time to address this crisis. It is time to finish our border wall—a wall that President Biden has refused to complete while \$350 million of unused border wall rust away underneath the Texas sun.

In his budget for this year, Joe Biden doesn't even mention the crisis on the border. Instead of giving our Border Patrol agents the tools that they need, President Biden has proposed to cut \$800 million from the Department of Homeland Security budget. If President Biden were to visit the border, he would see this crisis firsthand. But, instead, he has chosen to hide from the problem and continue to allow deadly drugs to flow into our communities and kill our citizens.

The American people can't afford to wait any longer. It is time for the

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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